

**Town of Royalston
Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Tuesday, August 2, 2005
7:00 p.m.**

Present: Werner Bundschuh, Chairman; Thomas Kellner, Clerk; and Andrew West, Member.

1. Chairman Bundschuh called the meeting to order.
2. The minutes of the 7/19/05 meeting were read. Mr. Kellner made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
3. Acknowledgements/Announcements/Correspondence:
 - a) Mr. Bundschuh is in receipt of documentation from Risa Richardson relating to the water issue at the Village School. She will be invited to attend a future meeting to discuss the matter.
4. Department Head Reports:
 - a) Fire Department:
 - 1) Awarding of Bid – EMS Vehicle: Fire Chief Wayne Newton reported that two bids were received for the EMS Vehicle; one from Yankee Fire & Rescue, Inc. in the amount of \$123,507 and one from E.V.I. in the amount of \$124,152. Chief Newton recommended that the Board award the bid to Yankee Fire & Rescue because they met the specifications. Gary Winitzer added that Yankee had a lower price, a better warranty, a local service center and a better vendor history. Chief Newton stated that the equipment on the current rescue vehicle would be kept and moved onto the new vehicle. Mr. Kellner made a motion to accept the bid received from Yankee Fire & Rescue, Inc. Mr. West seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously in favor. The standard order form for the vehicle was signed. Mr. Bundschuh thanked everyone involved for their hard work on getting all this information together.
 - 2) Chief Newton reported that the new Pierce truck is currently making a noise in the rear-end. He is working with the company to have the vehicle repaired.
 - b) DPW:
 - 1) Keith Newton presented a project request for Chapter 90 reimbursement for work on King Street. Discussion was held regarding alternatives for the jersey barriers and stop sign in this area. Mr. Newton explained that the town must comply with D.O.T. regulations.
 - 2) He is also working with a firm on preliminary engineering work for the proposed Route 32 project.
 - 3) The grader is now experiencing brake problems. Mr. Newton is working on getting the brakes repaired.

- 4) Vyto Andreliunas reported that there are chunks of pavement missing on a section of Route 32 due to recent rain showers. Mr. Newton noted that there has been a tremendous amount of damage and suggested that residents continue to send letters to legislators.

c) Police Department:

- 1) Chief Deveneau has sent in the Homeland Security grant application and is hoping to receive funds from a Community Policing Grant.
- 2) He reported that the individual complained about by Mr. Longworth at the last meeting currently has a large dumpster on his property. The Chief will be sure that the area is cleaned up. He will also be following up on letters sent out previously to owners of unregistered vehicles and will report back to the Board.
- 3) The Board met with two candidates for police officer positions: Robert Mackie of Winchendon and Robert Plummer of town. Mr. Kellner made a motion to appoint both men as police officers for a one-year period ending June 30, 2006. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

5. Old Business:

- a) Open Space Plan Discussion – The Board had hoped to discuss the Open Space Committee’s report regarding abandoned property. Aaron Ellison will be invited to the next meeting to discuss the report.
- b) Landscape Maintenance Contract - Mr. Bundschuh stated that this contract is based on last year’s contract. There were no responses to the bid this year. Mr. Kellner said that he wants to include trimmings as well as mowings. We need to have enough mowings and quality. Mr. West stated that he plans to keep track of the mowings on a calendar to see if they are done on schedule. He said that the condition of Riverside today is that the lower part has been mowed and not trimmed, and the upper part has not been mowed. Mr. Bundschuh will ask Willard Newton why the mowing of the entire cemetery has not been completed. Mr. West will be in charge of seeing that Mr. Newton abides by the schedule as outlined in the contract. Mr. Kellner made a motion to sign the contract with Mr. West as overseer. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
- c) Commonwealth Capital Grant Application – Kim MacPhee said that she is on track to get this application in on time. Mr. Bundschuh reported that he has received the CDBG Grant Application Review Notes. Mr. Kellner stated that Shelly Hatch and Laila Michaud from MRPC would like to come to a meeting to discuss them. Mr. Andreliunas will invite them to a future meeting.
- d) Mr. West said that the Assessor’s Office would look for the deed for 2 King Street, the LaRoche property, in the town’s records. There has been no news since the last meeting in terms of a lawyer to draw up the deed.
- e) Mr. West asked Keith Newton about the status of School Street. Mr. Newton said that Commonwealth Guardrail has to finish up, the water line must be replaced, and asphaltting must be completed.
- f) Mr. West stated that there is interest in restoring the gate at Riverside Cemetery. John McClure had said that no contractors would touch it because of lead paint. He would like to request that John McClure wait before he takes any action. Mr. Kellner made a motion to allow Mr. West to pursue the replication of the gate at Riverside Cemetery. Mr. West seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

- g) Mr. West reported that at the Historic District Commission's public hearing regarding the sodium lights at the Town Hall, it was determined that the lights are unacceptable. The Commission will ask the Board of Selectmen to address other options with Mass. Electric. Mr. Bundschuh said that he has already done that. Mr. West will explore other options.
6. New Business:
- a) The Board is in receipt of a request from the First Congregational Church to use the kitchen and dining hall of the Town Hall on 8/6/05 for a Ham & Bean Supper. The church is working to raise funds to repair the steeple. Mr. West made a motion to allow the use of the hall and to waive the fee because the steeple houses the town clock. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
 - b) Mr. Kellner said that there is someone interested in donating time to refinish the auditorium floor in the Town Hall if the Town purchases the materials. The timeline would be during August and September. Discussion was held regarding liability issues for a volunteer. Mr. Bundschuh will ask town counsel about the issue.
 - c) Diana Newton – Selectboard Meeting Tapes – Mr. Kellner spoke with a lawyer in the Secretary of State's office, who stated that the state policy is that after the minutes are accepted, the tapes can be erased or taped over.
7. The Treasury Warrant was signed.
8. At 9:37 p.m., Mr. Kellner made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy relating to collective bargaining. The Board will return to open session for adjournment only.
9. Mr. Kellner made a motion to adjourn at 10:34 p.m. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Minutes recorded by Diana Newton.

